



New Mexico State Senate

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SENATOR GEORGE K. MUÑOZ

D-Cibola & McKinley-4

P.O. Box 2679
Gallup, NM 87305

Home: (505) 722-0191
Office: (505) 722-6570
Cell: (505) 721-0019

July 18, 2011

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Comment Deadlines Established Regarding the LightSquared Technical Working Group Report, IB Docket No. 11-109

Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of my constituents in New Mexico's 4th District and for the benefit of citizens throughout our state, I request that you and your fellow commissioners approve LightSquared's nation wide wireless plan and I urge the Commission to continue working for a solution to the LightSquared/GPS interference issues.

As a State Senator of the New Mexico Legislature that represents a rural area, I am uniquely aware of the value of investing in broadband infrastructure. LightSquared's wholesale-only network will also enable rural and other smaller carriers without a national footprint to offer 4G roaming services, enabling them to compete more effectively in a wireless market in which users increasingly demand access to nationwide service.

The transaction could also support an initiative of the New Mexico State Legislature: greater government transparency and accountability to our state's taxpayers. By offering improved access to high-speed wireless Internet, the merger will allow more constituents to contact their representatives through email, stream video of floor proceedings and committee hearings, and follow their elected officials' progress through government Web sites and online news outlets.

Beyond the two benefits cited here, the value of increased broadband access will no doubt make its mark on New Mexico's businesses, communities and schools. I urge you to consider the variety and scope of opportunities that LightSquared could offer.

GPS is an important technology that clearly should be protected. However, it would be wrong to squander the chance for a privately funded new national wireless broadband provider to launch service simply because an older technology in a neighboring spectrum finds it inconvenient to make technical adjustments to its equipment.

The goal of expanded broadband spectrum is too important to squander this opportunity. New Mexico needs both LightSquared and GPS. Please find a solution.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'George Munoz', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

George Munoz
NM State Senator, District 4